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| 2        | UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT   |  |   |
| 3        | EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK   |  |   |
| 4        |  |  |   |
| 5        | UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  |  |   |
| 6        | -against-  | United States Courthouse<br>: Brooklyn, New York   |   |
| 7        | DETELINA SUBEVA,   | : August 11, 2022  |   |
| 8        | Defendant.   | : 12:00 o'clock p.m.   |   |
| 9        |  | X  |   |
| 10       | TRANSCRIPT OF SENTENCING<br>BEFORE THE HONORABLE WILLIAM F. KUNTZ, II<br>UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE. |  |   |
| 11       |  |  |   |
| 12       | APPEARANCES:   |  |   |
| 13       |  | BREON PEACE<br>United States Attorney  |   |
| 14<br>15 |  | BY: HIRAL D. MEHTA Assistant United States Attorney 271 Cadman Plaza East Brooklyn, New York |   |
| 16       |  | DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  |   |
| 17       |  | BY: MARGARET MOESER 1400 New York Avenue, 10th Floor   |   |
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| 21<br>22 |  | BY: MICHAEL G. McGOVERN, ESQ.<br>BRITTANY G. NORFLEET, ESQ.                                  |   |
| 23       |  | Sittiffice of Hold Elli, Low.  |   |
| 24       |  | Charleane M. Heading<br>225 Cadman Plaza East  |   |
| 25       | Brooklyn, New York   |  |   |
|          | Proceedings recorded by mechanical stenography, transcript   |  |   |

3 1 MR. McGOVERN: We are, Your Honor. 2 THE COURT: You may remove your masks and be seated. 3 It's not a requirement but you may do so. 4 MR. McGOVERN: Thank you. THE COURT: Members of the public, you may be seated 5 but you must keep your masks on consistent with our Eastern 6 7 District protocols. 8 Are there any other counsel who wish to note their 9 appearances for the record today? 10 Hearing none, we will proceed. Good afternoon, Ms. Subeva. 11 12 THE DEFENDANT: Good afternoon. 13 THE COURT: I'm going to ask you to pull the 14 microphone close to you and make sure that it's on with that oval light lit. Okay? 15 16 Ms. Subeva, have you had an opportunity to review 17 carefully the presentence investigation report filed in your 18 case on December 16th of 2020? 19 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I have, Your Honor. 20 THE COURT: Have you discussed that report with your 21 counsel? 22 THE DEFENDANT: I have, Your Honor. 23 THE COURT: Have you also read the following items 24 and discussed them with your counsel: The first addendum to 25 the presentence investigation report filed on May 26th of

4 2022? 1 2 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor. 3 THE COURT: The government's objections to the 4 presentence investigation report filed on July 12th of 2022? THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor. 5 Defense counsel's objections to the 6 THE COURT: 7 presentence investigation report filed on July 13th of 2022, 8 have you seen that? THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor. 9 10 THE COURT: The second addendum to the presentence investigation report filed on July 19th of 2022, have you seen 11 12 that? 13 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor. 14 THE COURT: The government's sentencing memorandum filed on July 28th of 2022? 15 16 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor. 17 THE COURT: And defense counsel's sentencing 18 memorandum filed on August 5th of 2022 which also includes letters of support from your family and your community. 19 20 you seen that as well? 21 THE DEFENDANT: I have, Your Honor. 22 THE COURT: In addition to those materials, my files 23 also reflect copies of the following: The indictment filed in 24 this case on December 19th of 2018; the agreement which 25 accompanied the May 20, 2019 change of plea hearing; and the

5 order of forfeiture which I entered on August 9th of 2022. 1 2 Are there any other documents either counsel would 3 like to call to the court's attention beginning with the 4 government? 5 MR. MEHTA: No, Your Honor. THE COURT: Defense counsel? 6 7 MR. McGOVERN: No, Your Honor. 8 THE COURT: Ms. Subeva, do you feel prepared to go 9 forward with sentencing today? THE DEFENDANT: I do, Your Honor. 10 11 THE COURT: Ms. Subeva, you have the right to 12 address this court before I impose sentence. I will give you 13 the opportunity to do so in just a few minutes and you should 14 feel free to say anything you think appropriate at that time before I finalize my judgment in your case. Do you 15 16 understand? 17 THE DEFENDANT: Thank you. 18 THE COURT: Are you satisfied with your counsel's 19 representation? 20 THE DEFENDANT: Very much, Your Honor. 21 THE COURT: Do you feel you have received the 22 effective assistance of counsel? 23 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I have, Your Honor. 24 THE COURT: If you do not believe you have received 25 the effective assistance of counsel, you may raise a claim of

ineffective assistance of counsel at an appropriate time and in an appropriate forum. Do you understand?

THE DEFENDANT: I do, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Now, the United States Code sets forth the following sentencing parameters for conspiracy to commit money laundering in violation of Title 18 of the United States Code, Section 1956(h): The statutory maximum imprisonment term of 20 years; the statutory maximum term of supervised release of three years; a term of probation of not less than one nor more than five years; a maximum fine of \$500,000; and a mandatory special assessment of \$100 per count which I am required to impose in all cases.

This court must also consider the sentencing parameters set by the United States Sentencing Guidelines. Here, the applicable guideline for conspiracy to commit money laundering in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1956(h) is USSG Section 2S1.1.

According to Probation, the base offense level is 6 pursuant to USSG Section 2S1.1(a)(1)(A) because defendant committed the underlying offense or would be accountable for the underlying offense under USSG Section 1B1.3(a)(1)(A) and because the offense level for that offense can be determined. Probation states that because the underlying conduct involved fraud, USSG Section 2B1.1 is referenced to determine the offense level which is 6 pursuant to USSG Section 2B1.1(a)(2).

Probation then calculates the offense level as follows. Because the instant offense involved \$5,500,000 in illegally obtained loans, 18 levels are added pursuant to USSG Section 2B1.1(b)(1)(J). Because the instant offense involved ten or more victims, two levels are added pursuant to USSG Section 2B1.1(b)(2)(A)(i). Because a substantial part of the fraudulent scheme was committed outside of the United States, two levels are added pursuant to USSG Section 2B1.1(b)(10)(B).

Because the offense substantially jeopardized the financial security of the Mozambique government, an organization that had 1,000 or more employees, four levels are added pursuant to USSG Section 2B1.1(b)(17)(B)(ii)(II). Because the offense involved a violation of securities laws, and at the time of the offense, defendant was an officer, director or employee of a publicly traded company, four levels are added pursuant to USSG Section 2B1.1 (b)(19)(A)(i). Because defendant was a minor participant in the instant offense, the offense level is decreased by two levels pursuant to USSG Section 3B1.2(b).

Because the defendant has clearly demonstrated her acceptance of responsibility for the offense, the offense level is decreased by two levels pursuant to USSG 3E1.1(a). Because the government has made a motion stating it was notified in a timely manner of the defendant's intent to enter

a plea of guilty, the offense level is decreased by one additional level pursuant to USSG 3E1.1(b).

The adjusted offense level according to Probation is therefore 31.

The government and defense counsel, however, on the other hand, calculate the offense level differently.

According to the government and defense, the base offense level for the defendant's conduct is 8, pursuant to USSG Section 2S1.1(a)(2). Because the instant offense level involved \$5.5 million in illegally obtained loans, 18 levels are added pursuant to USSG Section 2B1.1(b)(1)(J). Because the defendant was convicted under Title 18 of the United States Code, Section 1956, two levels are added pursuant to USSG Section 2S1.1(b)(1)(B).

Because the defendant was a minor participant in the instant offense, the offense level is decreased by three levels pursuant to USSG Section 3B1.2(b). The government and defense counsel recommend a three point reduction under this subsection because they argue the defendant was not involved in the underlying fraudulent conduct and her money laundering conduct was limited to the accepting of the \$200,000 sent to her.

Because the defendant has clearly demonstrated acceptance of responsibility for the offense, the offense level is decreased by two levels pursuant to USSG

Section 3E1.1(a). And, finally, because the government has made a motion stating it was notified in a timely manner of the defendant's intention to enter a plea of guilty, the offense level is decreased by one additional level pursuant to USSG 3E1.1(b).

The adjusted offense level according to the government and the defense is therefore 22.

Defendant has one prior conviction which results in a criminal history score of I. According to the sentencing table in use, Chapter 5, part A, USSG Chapter 5, part A, a criminal history score of one establishes a criminal history category of I.

For an offense level of 31, with a criminal history category of I, the sentencing guidelines suggest a term of incarceration of 108 to 135 months and a fine of between \$30,000 and \$500,000. For an offense level of 22, and a criminal history category of I, the sentencing guidelines suggest a term of incarceration of 41 to 51 months and a fine of between \$15,000 and \$500,000. The guidelines further suggest a term of supervised release of one to three years.

Pursuant to paragraphs 6 through 12 of the agreement, the defendant also agreed to the entry of a forfeiture money judgment which the court entered on August 9th of 2022 in the amount of \$200,000.

Probation recommends a sentence of eight years in

read our sentencing submission as well as the government's 5K letter and I appreciate the Court's attention to those. I do want to add just some personal reflections that are not captured in the papers.

THE COURT: Proceed.

MR. McGOVERN: I have been with Lina every step of the way in this now four year ordeal. I met with her shortly after her arrest in the UK. She was shaken to the core. She was back home with her two children, the youngest of whom was still breastfeeding. He was only 11 months old. And yet, Lina made it clear to me from the start that she wanted to cooperate and she wanted to provide the government whatever assistance she could. She has done exactly that for the last three and a half years and she'll continue to do so.

As the government has accurately and thankfully recorded it for the government, I mean for the Court in the 5K, while her role in the charged conduct was minor, and that's an assessment that the Probation Department as well agrees with, her cooperation has been both exemplary and invaluable.

She was the first defendant, as the Court knows, to come forward to cooperate and she did that through me within weeks of her arrest. I was on the phone with the Eastern District extending her willingness to cooperate. She immediately consented to a waiver of extradition and as

expeditiously as possible, after meeting in several proffer sessions with the government, Lina came here to the United States to appear before Your Honor and pleaded guilty pursuant to the cooperation agreement, and she admitted in that plea that she had failed to return \$200,000 in illegal proceeds that her supervisor, Andrew Pearse, had put into her bank account without her advanced knowledge.

As we said in our submission to the Court, Lina's failure to give that money back to Andrew Pearse after she learned of the bank deposit is a decision that she will regret for the rest of her life, but just as important, she has devoted the last three and a half years to making amends for that one mistake.

Her cooperation, as the government reports to the Court, led directly to the convictions of both of her supervisors at Credit Suisse, Surjan Singh and Andrew Pearse. Her cooperation has led directly to the guilty plea and the related resolutions by Credit Suisse with fines and other penalties totaling \$547 million. Her cooperation has also led to the resolution by the Russian bank VTB with the SEC for another \$6 million.

Her cooperation made her available after many prep sessions with the government to be a trial witness against Mr. Boustani. Lina traveled here to New York and spent several weeks in anticipation of being called as witness in

that trial. Ultimately, as the Court knows, she was not called but she was disclosed to the defense counsel as a potential witness and she was ready, willing and able to testify.

She is also ready, willing and able to testify and committed to doing so in any future trials in connection with this case including in connection with the anticipated prosecution in this courthouse of Mr. Manuel Chang who, as we understand it, is in the process of being extradited to the United States.

As I said at the outset, Your Honor, I have been with Lina every step of the way, whether it was in those proffer sessions, those initial proffer sessions in London, the witness preparation sessions here in New York and her guilty plea before this court.

I have seen firsthand the brutal toll that this case has taken on her. I have witnessed up close the rapid deterioration of her life. She has lost the only career she has ever known making her now dependent on others for financial support. She has lost her marriage and she has lost her physical and her emotional health. The Court has those letters from her close friends. Most of them in very stark terms say that they have watched her, as have I, waste way over the course of the last four years.

At this juncture, all that Lina has left is her two

children who depend on her for everything. She is the light of their lives and they are of hers. The Court knows their ages. They are 4 and 12.

So, Your Honor, taking full account of Lina's acceptance of responsibility, her minor role in the offense, her demonstrated remorse, and her exemplary and invaluable cooperation with the government in the prosecution of others far more culpable than she, we respectfully ask this court to impose a sentence of time served so that Lina can go home to her two children and begin rebuilding a life for herself and for them.

Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Thank you, Counsel.

I will hear from the government, then from Probation and then from the defendant if the defendant wishes to make a statement at that time.

Mr. Mehta?

MR. MEHTA: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Thank you.

MR. MEHTA: You know, Your Honor, there are cooperators who come in after they've lost several motions, lost hearings, motion to dismiss, motion to suppress, special hearings, because they realize they've tried to fight and they've lost. And then there are cooperators who from the very instant of their arrest make a concerted effort to accept

responsibility, to show remorse and actually cooperate from the beginning. And Ms. Subeva is in the latter category of those cooperators and that is an important distinction, Your Honor, that the Court should be aware of.

Ms. Subeva was arrested in September of 2019. Within a matter of weeks, Mr. McGovern had reached out to our office and indicated that his client wanted to cooperate fully and substantially immediately and Ms. Subeva did that. We met with her in London several times and she accepted responsibility, she showed genuine remorse and she provided the government with invaluable assistance. She was the first person in the door. The indictment charges several individuals. She was the first person who came forward.

It was her cooperation that led to Andrew Pearse's guilty plea and conviction, to Surjan Singh's plea and conviction and, ultimately, to the monumental corporate resolution that Your Honor did last year, last October, involving the U.S. Government and Credit Suisse, a \$547 million, plus \$200 million loan forgiveness for Mozambique, a global resolution that involved both the U.S. Government as well as the Securities and Exchange Commission, the UK Financial Conduct Authority, the Swiss Financial Market Authority.

That was really only possible because of

Ms. Subeva's decision to come in as quickly as possible and

that led to essentially a snowball effect that allowed for all of these convictions and resolutions and, of course, as Your Honor is also aware that you oversaw recently the restitution proceeding by Credit Suisse and providing restitution for those who were investors in the amount of securities.

So we contrast Ms. Subeva's exemplary cooperation with then her role in the offense which all parties agree was minor. She was someone who reported to Surjan Singh, who then reported to Andrew Pearse, and the fact is, as Your Honor is aware from testimony at trial and from the proffer agreements the government reviewed and carefully detailed in its objection to the Probation Department's recommendation as well as in our 5K, Ms. Subeva was not part of the underlying fraudulent scheme. She was not. That's -- those are the facts, Your Honor. That's not in dispute.

She was in Maputo in Mozambique for due diligence meetings and that is when Mr. Pearse, as he testified at trial as he did in our proffer agreements and proffer statements, told her that Mr. Boustani had offered him a kickback but he didn't indicate to her whether he was going to accept. He just said this offer was made. That's it.

It was only later, Your Honor, after he had already accepted the money, gotten the money into his account, that he informed Ms. Subeva that he had engaged in this fraud and it

was only after that that he had sent her \$200,000 from those proceeds without asking her in advance into her account. That was a mistake, Your Honor. It was a crime. It was money laundering because she took that money and did not give it back.

She's allocuted to that and she's been convicted of that, but I think the Court should consider that conduct in the context of both the broader scheme alleged and also her cooperation which has been exceptional.

So given all those factors and facts, which, again, are not disputed, the government respectfully requests the Court depart downwardly from the guideline sentence here. We believe the guidelines are 41 to 51 months. We've provided case law in support of our arguments. We have not heard anything from Probation on that. We have not had case law from Probation distinguishing our cases that we cited.

The levels that they argue, for example, Probation says it should be a four level enhancement for securities law violation, that's just not true. Probation themselves concedes that Proindicus is the only entity for which Ms. Subeva was involved. Proindicus, as Your Honor is aware, is a loan. It's not a security. If you look at Count Two of the indictment, securities fraud conspiracy, it only alleges it was EMATUM. EMATUM is a security. Proindicus is not. Those four should not count. That's just legally wrong,

Case 1:18-cr-00681-NGG Document 737 Filed 08/19/24 Page 18 of 24 PageID #: 18 factually wrong. 1 2 Jeopardizing the security of Mozambique government, substantially jeopardizing, there's no evidence of that. 3 4 There's no evidence that one loan for \$372 million jeopardized Mozambique's security. No reason on the record. You heard, 5 Your Honor heard from individuals at trial that indicated that 6 7 it was only after all three loans had become public, 8 Proindicus upsizes, EMATUM and MAM, did the IMF decide to pull 9 out. 10 Again, the factual record is clear. Again, nothing 11 from Probation on that. No response. Unclear where their 12 guidelines come from. It's locally and factually just wrong. 13 So given the guidelines of 41 to 51 months which both parties 14 agree is the correct guideline sentence, the government simply 15 requests the Court downwardly depart from that guideline 16 sentence given the factors that we just discussed. 17 Thank you. 18 THE COURT: Does the government support the defense 19 application for time served with Probation? 20 MR. MEHTA: The government has no objection to that 21 application. 22 THE COURT: I'll hear from Probation and then from 23

the defendant if she wishes to make a statement.

You can remain seated. Just pull the microphone closer to you. Thank you.

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CMH 0CR RDR **FCRR** 

THE PROBATION OFFICER: Thank you, Your Honor.

Probation will rely on the addenda filed with respect to this case and we have nothing further to add at this time, however, I am happy to answer questions should the Court have any inquiries in this regard.

THE COURT: Thank you.

I will hear from the defendant if she wishes to make a statement. Ms. Subeva?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes, please, Your Honor. Thank you.

I would like to begin by thanking Your Honor for giving me the opportunity to cooperate with the government while continuing to care for my children over the last three and a half years.

I hope that through my cooperation efforts, I have demonstrated to you, Judge Kuntz, my full acceptance of responsibility and my remorse for my mistakes. I would also like to assure the Court that my cooperation will continue after today whenever I'm needed.

Second, I would like to thank the entire government team including the agents for guiding me through this difficult process. I'm very grateful that the government has provided the Court their assessment of how timely and helpful my cooperation has been.

Finally, I would like to thank my family, especially my two young children, for being my ray of sunshine through

these very dark periods of my life. All I ask is that the Court allow me to return home to my children who need their mother very much.

Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Subeva.

The court has this to say. Perfect justice in this case would involve a power that neither I nor any judge nor any human being for that matter has in his or her hands. It is challenging and humbling to sit here as the court and to pass sentence on a fellow human being.

This case impacts your community. This case impacts your family. Ultimately, of course, this case impacts you because this case is ultimately about you, what you did that brought us here today, a day of sadness and of tragedy.

The government and your counsel have fully articulated the history of this case. Your counsel dropped in a footnote a comment that says a great deal about what this case ultimately turns on and that is your business and personal relationship with Mr. Pearse that had an outsized impact on the case and an outsized impact on your personal life as you have indicated.

In the course of the trial, there was a great deal of testimony and proffers and other documents about how this business fraud unfolded and all of its complexity.

I am going to submit a detailed memorandum of law

that goes over the elements that government and Probation and defense counsel has touched on. In many cases, I read that into the record out loud. I don't think that's necessary here today in light of what we've discussed and in light of going through the elements that the government, Probation and defense counsel have commented on. So I am going to cut to the chase.

You called your British criminal colleague in crime
"Mr. Bond." He did, after all, have and drive an
Aston Martin. You had the right film, but the wrong
character. He was not Mr. Bond. He was Goldfinger.

As Anthony Newley wrote, and Shirley Bassey sang:
"Goldfinger. He's the man, the man with the Midas touch, a
spider's touch, such a cold finger, beckons you to enter his
web of sin but don't go in. Golden words he will pour in your
either but his lies can't disguise what you fear for a golden
girl knows when he's kissed her, it's the kiss of death from
Mr. Goldfinger. Pretty girl beware of this heart of gold.
This heart is cold. He loves only gold. He loves gold."

That's what happened here. You went to Mercersburg college, school, secondary school, you went to Princeton, you worked for Credit Suisse, and you did this not coming from a silver spoon background but a working class background. You married a fellow professional, had children, and then you played I believe the British phrase is "silly buggers" with

Goldfinger.

I am going to sentence you to time served with no supervised release and I am going to do that because the government has pointed out and your defense counsel has pointed out your extraordinary cooperation in this case.

I understand Probation's position and I get it and I also want to say this. Mr. Boustani spent 11 months as a guest of the United States Government, two appeals of my finding he would be a flight risk, and a jury of his peers acquitted him, and I never argue with juries, but I will say this. Mozambique is one of the poorest nations in the world and to see the kind of behavior that you, Singh, Pearce and Boustani engaged in where hundreds of millions of dollars were taken out of Mozambique, as the government correctly says, your direct piece of it, what you pled to was relatively small in dollar amounts, but a \$2 billion figure is the GDP of that nation in some years and that's the magnitude of the fraud that was involved here.

It was truly outrageous and as a corporate officer, as a graduate of one of the finest institutions in this country, I'm going to use an old fashioned word: It was wrong. There's a difference between the good guy, Mr. Bond, and the bad guy, Mr. Goldfinger, and if you go back and watch that 1964 film, you will see that, in fact, it was about an attempt by a very evil man to corrupt the capital markets of

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| 1  | THE COURT: When I was in Catholic grammar school  |  |  |
| 2  | growing up, a nun said, it's very important, to avoid and   |  |  |
| 3  | this was their very 1950s Franciscan nun phrase: to avoid   |  |  |
| 4  | the near occasions of sin.  |  |  |
| 5  | When you say that to a seven-year old growing up in   |  |  |
| 6  | Harlem, it means one thing. In the adult world, I think we  |  |  |
| 7  | all know what it means.   |  |  |
| 8  | We're adjourned.  |  |  |
| 9  | MR. McGOVERN: Thank you, Your Honor.  |  |  |
| 10 | MR. MEHTA: Thank you, Your Honor.   |  |  |
| 11 | (Matter concluded.)   |  |  |
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| 17 | * * * * *   |  |  |
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| 19 | I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the record of proceedings in the above-entitled matter. |  |  |
| 20 | record or proceedings in the above-entitled matter.   |  |  |
| 21 | /s/ Charleane M. Heading August 16, 2022  |  |  |
| 22 | CHARLEANE M. HEADING DATE   |  |  |
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